United Nations A/60/PV.62

General Assembly
Sixtieth session

Official Records

62nd plenary meeting
Thursday, 8 December 2005, 3 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Eliasson ..... (Sweden)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Hamidon (Malaysia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

Reports of the First Committee

The Acting President: The General Assembly will now take up the remaining reports of the First Committee, on agenda items 98 to 105 and 116.

I should like to remind members that this morning, the General Assembly, at its 61st plenary meeting, decided not to discuss the reports of the First Committee that are before the Assembly today. Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the First Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members once again that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, that is, either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee, and that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the First Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Committee, unless notified otherwise in advance. That means that where separate or recorded votes were taken, we will do the same. I should also hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the First Committee.

Agenda item 98

Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee (A/60/464)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it six draft resolutions recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 22 of its report.

We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I to VI, one by one. After all the decisions have been taken, representatives will again have the opportunity to explain their votes.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

The First Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/83).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace,

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

05-63441 (E)

Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

The First Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 60/84).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

The First Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 60/85).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

The First Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 60/86).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

The First Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 60/87).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VI is entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 111 votes to 49, with 13 abstentions (resolution 60/88).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 98?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 99

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Report of the First Committee (A/60/465)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 12 of its report.

Ms. Ameri (United States of America): The United States would like to put on record that it will not participate in the vote on draft resolution III, "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

The Acting President: We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I to III.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research".

The First Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/89).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

The First Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 60/90).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

The First Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 60/91).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 99?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 100

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

Report of the First Committee (A/60/466)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

A separate vote has been requested on the sixth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution. If there is no objection to that request, I shall first put to the vote the sixth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution, on which a separate, recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique,

Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

India, Israel.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mauritius, Pakistan, United States of America.

The sixth preambular paragraph was retained by 162 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions.

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote the draft resolution as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Tonga.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 164 votes to 5, with 5 abstentions (resolution 60/92).

The Acting President: May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to conclude its consideration of agenda item 100?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 101

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

Report of the First Committee (A/60/467)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

The First Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/93).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 101?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 102

Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

Report of the First Committee (A/60/468)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

The First Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/94).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 102?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 103

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Report of the First Committee (A/60/469)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United

Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Colombia, India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic.

The draft resolution was adopted by 172 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions (resolution 60/95).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 103?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 104

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

Report of the First Committee (A/60/470)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

The First Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/96).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 104?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 105

Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security

Report of the First Committee (A/60/471)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

The First Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 105?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 116

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee (A/60/524)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 5 of its report.

The draft decision, entitled "Proposed programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2006", was adopted by the First Committee. May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 116.

The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all reports of the First Committee before it.

Reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

The Acting President: The General Assembly will now consider the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) on agenda items 27 to 37, 26 and 116. I request the Rapporteur of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee, Mr. Muhammad Shahrul Nizzam Umar of Brunei Darussalam, to introduce, in one intervention, the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee.

Mr. Umar (Brunei Darussalam), Rapporteur of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee): It gives me great pleasure to introduce to the General Assembly the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), submitted under agenda items 26 to 37 and 116. These reports are contained in documents A/60/472 to A/60/483 and A/60/525. These documents include the texts of draft resolutions and draft decisions recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

For the convenience of delegations, the Secretariat has prepared a checklist of Fourth Committee reports, which is contained in document A/C.4/60/INF/3.

In accordance with the General Assembly's recommendations, the Fourth Committee held 25 formal meetings during this first part of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly. Consistent with established practice, a working group of the whole, established by the Committee under agenda item 29 on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, also held several informal meetings.

During the first part of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, the Fourth Committee adopted 25 draft resolutions and three draft decisions, of which 10 draft resolutions and all three draft decisions were adopted without a vote. The work of the Fourth Committee was performed in a constructive environment in a results-oriented and flexible manner.

The Committee had in-depth interactive dialogue sessions with the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information on the item entitled "Questions relating to information" and with the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects". Similarly, the Committee benefited from an interactive dialogue session with the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). This format allowed for the active participation of delegations in the deliberations of the Committee and should be continued and improved in the future.

The report submitted under agenda item 27, entitled "Assistance in mine action", is contained in document A/60/473. The Committee held a series of intensive informal consultations on the subject and was able to reach a consensus on a draft resolution concerning that issue. In conformity with General Assembly resolution 58/316, this item is to be considered on a biennial basis and will be taken up again at the sixty-second session of the General Assembly.

The report submitted under agenda item 28, entitled "Effects of atomic radiation", is contained in document A/60/474. The Fourth Committee considered the report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, contained in document A/60/46. The draft resolution submitted under that agenda item is contained in paragraph 9 of the report of the Fourth Committee.

The report submitted under agenda item 29, entitled "International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space", is contained in document A/60/475. In considering that item, the Fourth Committee held several informal meetings of a working group of the whole; it was chaired by the delegation of Nigeria. That working group formulated the draft resolution, which was adopted by the Committee without a vote. It is contained in paragraph 11 of the report.

The report submitted under agenda item 30, entitled "United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)", is contained in document A/60/476. The Fourth Committee considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, published under the symbol A/60/13 and Add.1, as well as the report of the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA, issued in document A/60/439, and various reports of the Secretary-General. Under this item, the Committee adopted four draft resolutions by a recorded vote. It also adopted one draft decision without a vote on increasing the membership of the Advisory Commission on UNRWA. The Fourth Committee recommends these draft resolutions and decision for adoption by the General Assembly.

The report on item 31, entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories", is contained in document A/60/477. The Fourth Committee considered the report of the Special Committee concerning the protection and promotion of

the rights of the Palestinian people and other Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories, as well as other reports of the Secretary-General issued under this item. The Fourth Committee adopted five draft resolutions, which are contained in paragraph 20 of its report. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly adopt the draft resolutions.

The report on agenda item 32, entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects", is contained in document A/60/478. The Fourth Committee heard statements by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, and other representatives of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). The Committee also held an interactive dialogue on this item with the Under-Secretary-General and representatives from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

The report on agenda item 33, entitled "Questions relating to information", is contained in document A/60/479. The Fourth Committee reviewed the report of the Committee on Information (document A/60/21) and the report of the Secretary-General (A/60/173) and heard a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information, Mr. Shashi Tharoor. The Committee also held an interactive dialogue on this item with the Under-Secretary-General. The Committee then adopted, without a vote, two draft resolutions and one draft decision on the increase in the membership of the Committee on Information, which are contained, respectively, in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the report.

By the terms of the draft decision, Austria would be appointed as a member of the Committee on Information, and the membership of the Committee on Information would increase from 107 to 108 members. The Fourth Committee recommends that the General Assembly adopt the draft resolutions and the draft decision.

The Fourth Committee considered the decolonization items in one cluster with a single general debate on all decolonization items. The report presented under agenda item 34, entitled "Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 (e) of the Charter of the United Nations", is contained in document A/60/480. The draft resolution submitted under this item can be found in paragraph 7 of the report. The Fourth Committee recommends it for adoption by the General Assembly.

The report submitted under agenda item 35, entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories", is contained in document A/60/481. Under that item, the Fourth Committee adopted a draft resolution, which is contained in paragraph 7 of the report. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly adopt it.

The report submitted under agenda item 36, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations", is contained in document A/60/482. The Fourth Committee recommends that the draft resolution found in paragraph 7 of the report be adopted by the General Assembly.

The report submitted under agenda item 37, entitled "Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories", is contained in document A/60/483. The Fourth Committee recommends that the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution that appears in paragraph 6 of the report.

The report submitted under agenda item 26, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", is contained in document A/60/472. The Fourth Committee adopted seven draft resolutions and one draft decision under this item. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly adopt the seven draft resolutions contained in paragraph 32 of the report, as well as the draft decision contained in paragraph 33.

The report submitted under agenda item 116, entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly", is contained in document A/60/525. In accordance with resolution 58/316, of 1 July 2004, the Fourth Committee approved the draft programme of work of the Committee for the sixty-first session of the General Assembly. Under this item, the Committee also considered the issue of the rationalization of its working methods. At the invitation of the Chairman, the President of the General Assembly addressed the Committee, highlighting the importance attached to that issue. Together with the draft programme of work,

the Committee decided to attach a non-paper entitled "Revitalization of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)" to the report on this item. Those attachments are found, respectively, as annex I and II.

I would like to pay tribute to all delegations for the remarkable spirit of cooperation that prevailed in the work of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee. On behalf of the Bureau of the Fourth Committee, we would like to express our deep gratitude to delegations, whose concerted efforts led to the Committee's adoption of the draft resolutions before it. We would also like to thank all delegations that helped the Committee reach consensus on many draft resolutions and draft decisions.

I wish to pay special and well-deserved tribute to Ambassador Yashar Aliyev of Azerbaijan, Chairman of the Fourth Committee. His experience in multilateral diplomacy and his deep knowledge of the wide range of subjects considered by the Committee allowed him to lead the Committee with great insight. His vision and exemplary diplomatic skills proved instrumental for the smooth consideration by the Committee of some particularly complex items on its agenda.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the other members of the Bureau, namely, Mr. Subhas Gujadhur of Mauritius, Ms. Amparo Anguiano Rodríguez of Mexico and Mr. Alexander Gerts of the Netherlands, with whom I had the pleasure of working and who also played major roles in the success of the Fourth Committee.

I should also like to thank Mr. Zhang Saijin, Secretary of the Committee, for his invaluable assistance and advice in the work of the Committee. My appreciation also goes to his team — Ms. Tatyana Shestakova, Ms. Hyacinth Bailey and others — for their competence and dedication.

In conclusion, I respectfully submit to the General Assembly for its consideration and approval the recommendations of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee that appear in the reports published under the symbols A/60/472 to A/60/483 and A/60/525.

The Acting President: I thank the Rapporteur of the Special Political and decolonization Committee for his report.

If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee.

It was so decided.

The Acting President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, that is, either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I also remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee, unless the Secretariat is notified to the contrary in advance. That means that, where recorded votes were taken, we will do the same. I should also hope that we will proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee.

Agenda item 27

Assistance in mine action

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/473)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special

Committee and Decolonization Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

I call on the representative of the Sudan in explanation of position.

Mr. Ali (Sudan) (*spoke in Arabic*): The Sudan is among the countries to have suffered directly from mines and unexploded ordnance during wars. We are aware of the tragedy resulting from that, including the physical, social and economic problems suffered by victims — especially women and children — as a result of landmines.

We also believe that there is an urgent need for the international community to provide as much help as possible in order to eradicate landmines, as well as to build capacity at the national level following the entry into force of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. We need assistance with the efforts to remove landmines so the returnees can live in peace and tranquillity in cleared lands.

For reasons that I do not have the time to elaborate, we have always supported any international effort or draft resolutions in the area of landmines. However, owing to reasons beyond our control, we were not able to join the list of sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/60/L.7/Rev.1, entitled "Assistance in mine action", prior to the Fourth's Committee adoption. We also made an effort to sign on to the draft resolution prior to its adoption by the General Assembly, but found ourselves again unable to do so. The delegation of the Sudan would like to emphasize that we nevertheless feel that we are indeed a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.4/60/L.7/Rev.1, despite the fact that we did not officially become one due to the reasons I have just mentioned.

We urge members to adopt the draft resolution unanimously. We request that our position be reflected in the record of this meeting.

The Acting President: The General Assembly will now take action on the draft resolution.

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/97).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 27?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 28

Effects of atomic radiation

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/474)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/98).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 28?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 29

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/475)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee in paragraph 11 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/99).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 29?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 30

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/476)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it four draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee in paragraph 22 of its report and one draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 23 of the same report.

We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I to IV one by one and on the draft decision.

After all the votes have been taken, representatives will again have the opportunity to explain their vote.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Assistance to Palestine refugees".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel.

Abstaining:

Albania, Cameroon, Grenada, Haiti, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Tuvalu, Uganda, United States of America, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 161 votes to 1, with 11 abstentions (resolution 60/100).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Uruguay informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Grenada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Dominican Republic, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 161 votes to 6, with 5 abstentions (resolution 60/101).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste,

Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Grenada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Cameroon, Uganda.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 159 votes to 6, with 3 abstentions (resolution 60/102).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Bahrain informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The Acting President: We now turn to draft resolution IV, entitled "Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Grenada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Cameroon, Uganda.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 160 votes to 6, with 3 abstentions (resolution 60/103).

The Acting President: We turn now to the draft decision entitled "Increase in the membership of the Advisory Commission on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East".

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 30?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 31

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/477)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it five draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee in paragraph 20 of its report.

We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I to V one by one. After all the decisions have been taken, representatives will again have the opportunity to explain their vote.

The Acting President: We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Australia, Canada, Grenada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Tuvalu, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 86 votes to 10, with 74 abstentions (resolution 60/104).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic,

Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Grenada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Australia, Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Haiti, Uganda

Draft resolution II was adopted by 158 votes to 6, with 7 abstentions (resolution 60/105)

[Subsequently, the delegation of Ethiopia informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Grenada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Uganda.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 153 votes to 7, with 10 abstentions (resolution 60/106).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Grenada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 148 votes to 7, with 17 abstentions (resolution 60/107).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "The occupied Syrian Golan".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon,

Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel.

Abstaining:

Albania, Australia, Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uganda, United States of America, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution V was adopted by 156 votes to 1, with 15 abstentions (resolution 60/108).

The Acting President: I now give the floor to the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in explanation of vote after the vote.

Mr. Maleki (Islamic Republic of Iran): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran and would like to register the following statement. We voted in favour of the resolutions just adopted under agenda items 30 and 31 to join other countries that voted in favour of the resolutions in their hope of easing the pain and plight of the Palestinians, caused by the occupying Power: the Israeli regime. We believe that a durable peace in Palestine will be possible through justice, and end to discrimination, an end to the occupation of all Palestinian territories, the return of all Palestinian refugees, resort to democratic means to determine the wishes of the people and establishment of a democratic Palestinian State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 31?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 32

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/478)

The Acting President: May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee contained in document A/60/478?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of agenda item 32.

Agenda item 33

Questions relating to information

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/479)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 11 of its report and a draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 12 of the same report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution and the draft decision.

The draft resolution, entitled "Questions relating to information", is in two parts: Part A is entitled "Information in the service of humanity"; Part B is entitled "United Nations public information policies and activities".

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolutions 60/109 A and 60/109 B).

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision, entitled "Increase in the membership of the Committee on Information".

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 33?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 34

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 (e) of the Charter of the United Nations

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/480)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Albania, France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The draft resolution was adopted by 169 votes to none, with 5 abstentions (resolution 60/110).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 34?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 35

Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/481)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The draft resolution was adopted by 169 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions (resolution 60/111).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Israel informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote against.]

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 35?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 36

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/482)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 8 of its report.

I give the floor to the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Mr. Mekdad (Syrian Arab Republic): With regard to the agenda item under discussion, I have the honour to take the floor, in my national capacity and as Rapporteur of the Special Committee of 24, to propose oral amendments to the draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations" in the report of the Fourth Committee contained in document A/60/482.

The amendments are as follows: First, delete operative paragraph 13. Secondly, re-number the subsequent operative paragraphs accordingly. Thirdly, replace the text of the old operative paragraph 14 — which would become the new operative paragraph 13 — with new text as follows:

> "Requests the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the President of the Economic and Social Council."

The reason for those oral amendments is to synchronize the text of the proposed General Assembly draft resolution with the text of the resolution on the same subject adopted last July by the Economic and Social Council. The proposed amendments were agreed in the process of informal consultations between the interested delegations of the Special Committee of 24 and the European Union. It is the wish of interested parties that these amendments be adopted without a vote.

The Acting President: The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic has submitted oral amendments to operative paragraphs 13 and 14 of the draft resolution. In accordance with rule 90 of the rules of procedure, the Assembly will first take a decision on the oral amendments to operative paragraphs 13 and 14 of the draft resolution.

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt the oral amendments to operative paragraphs 13 and 14 of the draft resolution?

The oral amendments to paragraphs 13 and 14 were adopted.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution, as orally amended.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta,

Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The draft resolution, as orally amended, was adopted by 123 votes to none, with 50 abstentions (resolution 60/112).

[Subsequently, the delegations of Bulgaria and the United States of America informed the Secretariat that they had intended to abstain.]

The Acting President: I call on the representative of Saint Lucia, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote on the resolution just adopted.

Ms. Joseph (Saint Lucia): With regard to the vote just taken on the resolution entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations", my delegation voted in favour of the resolution, because it provides the basis for assistance from the wider United Nations system to the non-self-governing territories.

Delegations should recall that a number of United Nations bodies already provide for participation in these territories in their work programme, while other United Nations institutions have granted them observer status or associate membership with the concurrence of the Administering Powers concerned.

This resolution merely requests those United Nations bodies that have not done so to make the necessary adjustments within their respective mandates to assist these territories. Such a request pays due respect to the respective mandates of these agencies, so any concerns on this matter are unwarranted.

The General Assembly routinely adopts resolutions by consensus which call on the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to undertake certain options. The resolution on providing assistance from the specialized agencies to these territories is no different from those other resolutions that have enjoyed consensus.

If we are serious about assisting the non-self-governing territories in their realization of the right to self-determination, then the entire United Nations system should do its part by providing assistance and access to these territories in accordance with consensus resolutions consistently adopted by the General Assembly.

We are hopeful that, through dialogue at the Fourth Committee level, Member States can adopt a resolution on this matter by consensus next year.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 36?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 37

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/483)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 6 of its report.

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/113).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 37?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 26

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/472)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it seven draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 32 of its report, and a draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 33 of the same report. We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I through VII and on the draft decision, one by one. After all the decisions have been taken, representatives will again have the opportunity to explain their votes.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Question of Western Sahara".

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/114).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Question of New Caledonia".

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 60/115).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Question of Tokelau".

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 60/116).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands". This draft resolution is in two parts. Part A is entitled "General". Part B is entitled "Individual territories".

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 60/117 A and B).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Dissemination of information on decolonization".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic,

Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, France.

Draft resolution V was adopted by 167 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions (resolution 60/118).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VI is entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Belgium, France, Germany.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 166 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions (resolution 60/119).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VII is entitled "Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan,

Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 133 votes to 3, with 36 abstentions (resolution 60/120).

The Acting President: We turn now to the draft decision entitled "Question of Gibraltar".

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: I now give the floor to the representative of Saint Lucia, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote after the vote.

Ms. Joseph (Saint Lucia): I am making this statement after the adoption of draft resolution IV, on small Territories. My delegation joined the consensus on the resolution on small Territories because it serves to reiterate the call for the international community, including the wider United Nations system, to fulfil its obligations to facilitate the self-determination and subsequent decolonization of those Territories.

Like all draft resolutions adopted by the Special Committee on decolonization, the draft resolution on the small Territories was approved only after considerable discussion by the members of the Committee and only after analysing the available information about the situation on the ground in the Territories themselves. In that connection, the input of the people of the Territories is most useful in understanding the dynamics of the continued dependency arrangements, which are inconsistent with democratic governance.

Accordingly, the key to the realization of the decolonization mandate of the General Assembly lies in the implementation of Assembly resolutions by the relevant bodies of the wider United Nations system and Member States alike.

We are of the view that decolonization resolutions could be even further strengthened through the resumed formal participation of administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, in a spirit of cooperation where many of the issues contained in the draft resolutions are thoroughly discussed, debated and clarified. The input of the administering Powers at that time would be most welcome, and would be an important contribution to the decolonization process. In that connection, we look forward to the initiation of further dialogue on these issues during the Special Committee on Decolonization's consideration of those matters in 2006.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 26?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 116

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/60/525)

The Acting President: May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) contained in document A/60/525?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 116.

The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) before it.

Reports of the Fifth Committee

The Acting President: If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee that are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The Acting President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote.

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind Members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, that is, either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Fifth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Fifth Committee, unless the Secretariat is notified otherwise in advance. I therefore hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Fifth Committee.

Agenda item 140

Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/60/574)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/121).

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 140.

Agenda item 151

Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/60/562)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/122).

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 151.

The Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Fifth Committee before it.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.

United Nations A/60/PV.63

General Assembly

Sixtieth session

Official Records

63rd plenary meeting
Thursday, 15 December 2005, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Eliasson ..... (Sweden)

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

Agenda item 7 (*continued*)

Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee

Fourth report of the General Committee (A/60/250/Add.3)

The President: In the first paragraph of the report of the General Committee contained in document A/60/250/Add.3, the Committee informs the General Assembly that, by a vote of five to three, with 17 abstentions, the Committee decided not to recommend the inclusion of the item entitled "Protracted conflicts in the Black Sea-South Caucasus region and their implications for international peace, security and development" in the agenda of the sixtieth session.

The second paragraph of the same report concerns a request by Costa Rica for the inclusion in the agenda of the current session of an additional item entitled "Follow-up to the recommendations of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil-for-Food Programme".

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item, amended to read "Follow-up to the recommendations on administrative management and internal oversight of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil-for-Food Programme", be included in the agenda of the current session under heading I, "Organizational, administrative and other matters".

I call on the representative of the Secretariat.

Ms. Kelley: I would like to inform members that, should the General Assembly decide to include this new item in its agenda, that by itself would not give rise to financial implications. Should the Assembly subsequently decide, under this agenda item, that the Volcker report or parts therefore be translated and reproduced in all official languages, the financial implications would be the following.

Official translation and reproduction in five volumes of the whole Volcker report, including the report of the Working Group, in the six official languages would amount to $2,717,300.

Official translation and reproduction in four volumes of the Volcker report, minus the report of the Working Group, in the six official languages would amount to $2,250,800.

Official translation and reproduction in one volume of volume I of the Volcker report in the six official languages would amount to $258,800.

Reproduction of the whole Volcker report in English only would amount to $82,000.

Reproduction of volume I of the Volcker report in English only would amount to $8,400.

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

05-64493 (E)

The President: May I take it that the General Assembly decides to include this item in the agenda of the current session under heading I?

It was so decided.

The President: In the same paragraph, the General Committee further recommends that the item be considered directly in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the General Assembly decides to consider this item directly in plenary meeting?

It was so decided.

The President: I would like to inform members that the item entitled "Follow-up to the recommendations on administrative management and internal oversight of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil-for-Food Programme" becomes item 160 on the agenda of the current session.

Agenda item 73 *(continued)*

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: draft resolution (A/60/L.37)

(a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Draft resolutions (A/60/L.34, A/60/L.38 and A/60/L.39)

Amendment (A/60/L.35)

(d) Assistance to the Palestinian people

Draft resolution (A/60/L.36)

The President: Members will recall that the Assembly already held the debate on agenda item 73 and its sub-items (a), (c) and (d) at its 51st and 52nd plenary meetings on 14 November 2005, and adopted three resolutions under the item at its 52nd plenary meeting.

I now give the floor to the representative of Nigeria to introduce draft resolution A/60/L.34.

Mr. Adekanye (Nigeria): It gives me great pleasure to introduce the draft resolution contained in document A/60/L.34, entitled "Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence", in our capacity as the representative of the Chairman of the African Union and on behalf of the African Group, which has strongly endorsed this draft resolution.

In addition to the sponsors listed in the document, the following States have joined in sponsorship: Angola, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Jamaica, Kenya, Mauritius, Netherlands, Sudan, Sweden, Timor-Leste and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The tragic events that occurred in Rwanda from April to July 1994 are among the darkest and most dreadful in human history. Up to one million lives were lost. One million ordinary men, women and children were condemned to die for no other reason beside the fact that they belonged to a particular ethnic group or identified with a particular ethnic group.

The Rwandan genocide inflicted untold suffering on those who survived it. The most vulnerable groups of survivors were children and women. The children, apart from the trauma of watching their parents and siblings being slaughtered, were orphaned by the genocide and left alone in the world to fend for themselves. Most of these children have since had to live in child-headed households. Similarly, women not only watched their husbands and children being killed, but also underwent unspeakable physical abuse, in particular, sexual violence, which resulted in HIV infection in more than 60 per cent of the cases.

The draft resolution before us is intended to achieve two main objectives. First, it intends to encourage the international community to provide assistance to these vulnerable groups. Secondly, it sets out, through the capacities of the United Nations, to build awareness of the events of 1994 so that the world will be a better place in which to live.

It should be noted that, despite the best efforts of the Government of Rwanda and the support of the international community, many survivors remain very vulnerable and live in conditions of extreme poverty. We, the international community, must ensure that we do not disappoint the survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda by failing to come to their assistance, once more, in their hour of need.

My delegation coordinated four informal meetings to negotiate the draft before us. Much of the language in this draft resolution is agreed language from last year's General Assembly resolution 59/137, which was adopted without a vote. Two new operative paragraphs are included in this draft. These paragraphs deal with the creation of educational and outreach programmes on the prevention of genocide and contain language identical to a resolution adopted by consensus during this session of the General Assembly.

My delegation commends this draft resolution for the consideration of the General Assembly and looks forward to its adoption without a vote.

The President: In connection with draft resolution A/60/L.34 and the amendment thereto contained in document A/60/L.35, I would like to inform Members, after consultations, that action on these two documents is postponed to a later date to allow time for the review of their programme budget implications by the Fifth Committee.

Mr. Thomson (United Kingdom): It is my pleasure, on behalf of the European Union (EU), to introduce draft resolutions A/60/L.36, which is entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian People", and A/60/L.37, entitled "Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel".

With regard to draft resolution A/60/L.36, the European Union reiterates its commitment to the provision of assistance to the Palestinian people. Sustained donor support from the international community, working with the parties, is crucial if we are to see an improvement to the Palestinian economic and social infrastructure and to address the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people.

For its part, the European Union has undertaken to provide the "third party" role described in the recent Agreement on Movement and Access issues reached between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. The European Union will monitor the operations of the Rafah border crossing point and provide assistance to reinforce Palestinian border management capacities. Capacity-building, through training, equipment and technical assistance, is being taken forward through the European Community's assistance to the Palestinian Authority.

The European Union, alongside other Quartet members and international partners, is ready to assist the Palestinian Authority financially, technically and politically with their forthcoming multiparty elections for the Palestinian Legislative Council. We are prepared to send an observer mission to ensure that the elections are carried out in line with international principles for genuine democratic elections.

The European Union will also continue to provide technical and economic aid to the Palestinian people and contribute to the strengthening of Palestinian institutions, with the aim of seeing a peaceful and democratic State governed by the rule of law.

The European Union will continue to work with Israel, the Palestinian Authority and the international community to achieve the shared vision of a two-State solution set out in the road map. Both parties can count on the sustained support of the European Union in the ongoing effort to find a peaceful, durable and just settlement of the conflict.

One country, in addition to the sponsors on the tabled draft resolution, has requested to be included as an additional sponsor of draft resolution A/60/L.36 on "Assistance to the Palestinian People", and that country is Zambia.

With regard to draft resolution A/60/L.37, it is important to recognize that humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel provide an invaluable service to millions of civilians and vulnerable populations around the world, often in very difficult and challenging circumstances and often at great personal risk. The fact that such personnel have become increasingly exposed to security-related attacks and incidents, and that the perpetrators of such acts seemingly operate with impunity, clearly demonstrates why this issue demands our most urgent attention.

The draft resolution highlights, in particular, the need to strengthen the normative framework for the safety and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel. In this regard, the draft resolution calls on all States to consider becoming parties to, and to respect fully their obligations under, all relevant provisions of international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel and its Optional Protocol.

The draft resolution also highlights the need to promote and enhance security management within the

United Nations system, as well as cooperation and coordination with other relevant organizations with a view to addressing mutual security concerns. In that regard, the draft resolution requests the Secretary-General to continue his good work, including by further enhancing security consciousness within the Organization and by further developing and implementing a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations.

The informal consultations on the draft resolution were conducted in a positive manner, and we thank all interested delegations for their constructive engagement on the text. It is our sincere hope that this draft resolution will help contribute to wider efforts to provide the security and protection required for humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel to assist those in need.

Finally, in addition to the countries listed, the following countries have requested to be included as sponsors of draft resolution A/60/L.37, on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel: Andorra, Brazil, Chile, Hungary, Latvia, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste and Uruguay.

The President: I now give the floor to the representative of Sweden to introduce draft resolution A/60/L.38.

Mr. Lidén (Sweden): I have the honour to introduce, on behalf of the sponsors, draft resolution A/60/L.38, on strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.

It is a particular honour, Sir, to introduce this draft resolution under your presidency, as it draws upon the groundbreaking work for United Nations humanitarian assistance in which you once took the lead, which resulted in the often-referred-to resolution 46/182 of 1991. The draft before us today would lead to further progress in strengthening the coordination of the United Nations humanitarian system, which you helped to create in 1991.

I should like to announce that, since the draft resolution was submitted to the Assembly, the following countries have become sponsors: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Hungary, Jamaica, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Nicaragua, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United States of America.

My delegation is grateful for the improvements made in the text by delegations through a series of informal consultations. We would like to thank the sponsors and other delegations for the good and constructive spirit of cooperation and partnership in which the consultations were held. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Ambassador of Luxembourg, Mr. Jean-Marc Hoscheit, for ably guiding our work.

The draft resolution addresses both issues of important principle for humanitarian assistance and issues related to efforts to further strengthen international humanitarian response.

With regard to the first category, I would like to emphasize that the draft reaffirms the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance and calls upon Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure safe and unhindered access to affected populations. It expresses the General Assembly's grave concern about violence deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations. It calls upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to acts of violence against civilian populations and invites States to promote a culture of protection. It also expresses deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters and their horrific impact, which we have witnessed this year in the Indian Ocean region and more recently in Pakistan, the United States and Central America.

In the second category, the main issue is the upgrading of the current Central Emergency Revolving Fund to a Central Emergency Response Fund — a measure that will ensure a more predictable and timely response to humanitarian emergencies. Its objectives will be to promote early action and response aimed at reducing loss of life. It will enhance the response to time-critical requirements and will address situations in which humanitarian response is underfunded.

The draft urges Member States — and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and

institutions — to consider making contributions to the Fund. Many generous pledges have already been made, totalling more than $107 million. And I am pleased to announce that today, the Swedish Government decided to contribute $40 million before the end of the year, so that the new Fund can become operational almost immediately after we take a decision here. Our collective aim should be to reach $500 million.

The draft resolution also encourages the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue its efforts to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance, and calls upon relevant humanitarian actors to strengthen humanitarian response capacity at all levels and coordination at the field level and to enhance transparency, performance and accountability. It also calls for improvement of the consolidated appeals process.

In its final paragraph, the draft resolution requests the Secretary-General to report to the next session of the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.

I would like to make two technical corrections to the text. At the end of operative paragraph 15, the comma between the words "State" and "as" should be deleted. In paragraph 17, the words "that" and "is" after first word, "Affirms", should be deleted; the paragraph would thus begin, "Affirms its role to provide".

My delegation and the other sponsors hope that the draft resolution contained in document A/60/L.38 will be adopted by consensus.

The President: I noticed the beginnings of a round of applause at the statement just made by the representative of Sweden, which I think was in tribute to the setting up of the Central Emergency Response Fund, which will make a great difference. I will come back to that issue later when the Secretary-General joins us. But I am also grateful for the draft resolution's reference to resolution 46/182, adopted on 20 December 1991. It was finalized at about 1 a.m. of the night of 17 and 18 December 1991. I was the Chair of those negotiations. I only want to say that at that time the goal was to achieve a huge fund of $50 million. The Central Emergency Revolving Fund, as it was called, became operational on 1 May 1992. We received the last $1 million on 30 April 1992. We were extremely happy when that took place; we had the Fund on 1 May 1992.

It is a sign of how serious these issues have become when one realizes that here we are talking about a fund 10 times that size. It is both a sad and a joyful occasion — sad to note that we have huge disasters in the world that require such great resources, but also a good sign that there is enough solidarity in the world to make sure that such a fund is to be put in place. I think that at Christmas, at holiday time, we need to have that sign of solidarity, but also a sign that we are on the way to fulfilling one issue after another of the summit outcome document.

I just made a little bit of an excursion from the normal functions of the presidency; I hope members do not consider this a Swedish conspiracy to influence the agenda, but it was in a good cause.

I now give the floor to the representative of Jamaica to introduce draft resolution A/60/L.39.

Mrs. Bowen (Jamaica): I have the honour to introduce, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, draft resolution A/60/L.39, entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development".

We are pleased to announce that in addition to the sponsors listed in the text — Greece, Japan, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United Kingdom — the following countries have also joined as sponsors: Austria, Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey.

I wish to make a slight editorial correction to operative paragraph 10 of the English text. In line 7, delete the "s" in the word "notes", so that the relevant phrase reads "takes note in this regard".

Natural disasters have always been a part of our reality; however, over the last year in particular, we have witnessed an increase in the frequency and scale of their occurrence, creating serious challenges for many countries suffering their adverse effects. Some of the consequences are long-lasting, especially in developing countries where they can seriously affect social and economic development. We are well aware that it may not be possible to totally eliminate the suffering caused by natural disasters, but we believe

that the international response should not only focus on immediate response but also on the long-term rehabilitation and developmental needs of States recovering from them.

The draft resolution is based on the substance of previous texts on the same subject and attempts have been made to streamline and update it, based on recent developments. To begin with, the text, inter alia, reaffirms resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, which sets out the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system. We also recall your outstanding role, Mr. President, in finalizing that resolution.

The draft also emphasizes the role of the concerned State in minimizing the impact of a natural disaster, while also recognizing the importance of international cooperation in supporting the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities to fulfil that requirement. The Group of 77 and China also recognizes the necessity of coordination among respective partners, including affected States, regional and international organizations and civil society, throughout relief operations in medium and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards.

The Group of 77 and China attaches importance to strengthening the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to enhance their capacities at all levels in order to prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and to mitigate against their harmful effects.

We are grateful to our partners for the constructive, compromising and friendly spirit in which our informal consultations on the draft took place. That has led to a reasonable outcome which we hope will be confirmed by the adoption of the text by consensus.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the outstanding work of the Indian delegation, in particular Ms. Ruchi Ghanashyam, in facilitating the text.

The President: We shall now proceed to consider draft resolutions A/60/L.36, A/60/L.37, A/60/L.38, as orally corrected, and A/60/L.39, as orally corrected.

Before giving the floor to the representative of Cuba, who wishes to speak in explanation of position before action is taken on the draft resolutions, may I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Mr. Cumberbach Miguén (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation's explanation of vote will refer to draft resolution A/60/L.38. Cuba considers with special attention the question of humanitarian assistance. If one lives in a region where climatic occurrences are increasingly frequent and each time leave behind greater destruction, then efforts in that area are essential to help mitigate the effects of those disasters. Moreover, we have extended our cooperation to our neighbours in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico to cope with the consequences of hurricanes that afflict the area.

We believe, however, that the urgent needs of those caught in emergency situations should not be used to introduce notions that do not enjoy consensus among the members of the General Assembly, such as the so-called culture of protection referred to in operative paragraph 3.

Furthermore, we would like to make it clear that operative paragraph 9 should not be understood as reinterpreting the agreement on the triennial comprehensive review of programmes, that there must be no attempt to expand the mandates and functions of United Nations officials present in particular countries and that the use of the terms "appropriate authority, resources and accountability" in this case refers strictly to the internal functioning of agencies in the field.

Lastly, we sincerely hope that the expansion of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund will help tackle the funding requirements of humanitarian emergencies and that the resources that are distributed in an equitable manner are not earmarked in advance. Disbursement of funds should be carried out with respect for resolution 46/182, which sets out guiding principles for the provision of such humanitarian assistance.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions A/60/L.36, L.37, L.38, as orally corrected, and L.39, as orally corrected.

We will first take action on draft resolution A/60/L.37, which is entitled "Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel".

Angola, Cape Verde, Fiji, Grenada, Mali, Malta, Spain and Ukraine have added their names to the list of sponsors.

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt draft resolution A/60/L.37?

Draft resolution A/60/L.37 was adopted (resolution 60/123).

The President: Draft resolution A/60/L.38 is entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations".

Angola, Belize, Cape Verde, Grenada, Guatemala, Israel, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Pakistan, the Republic of Moldova, the Seychelles, Spain, Timor-Leste, Thailand and Ukraine have added their names to the list of sponsors.

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt draft resolution A/60/L.38, as orally corrected?

Draft resolution A/60/L.38, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 60/124).

The President: Draft resolution A/60/L.39 is entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development".

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt draft resolution A/60/L.39, as orally corrected?

Draft resolution A/60/L.39, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 60/125).

The President: We now turn to draft resolution A/60/L.36, entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

I call on the representative of the United Kingdom.

Ms. Brazier (United Kingdom): The United Kingdom would like to propose a revision to the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/60/L.36. The new paragraph would read as follows:

> "Gravely concerned at the deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in particular children, throughout the occupied territory, which constitutes a mounting humanitarian crisis".

The revision was agreed in informal consultations and has not been reflected in the text submitted.

The President: Cape Verde has become an additional sponsor of draft resolution A/60/L.36.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt draft resolution A/60/L.36, as orally revised?

Draft resolution A/60/L.36, as orally revised, was adopted (resolution 60/126).

The President: Before giving the floor to representatives who wish to speak in explanation of position on the draft resolution just adopted, may I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

I call on the representative of Israel.

Mr. Cohen (Israel): Israel has maintained longstanding support for humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people, and we are pleased to join the consensus on this resolution. We worked closely with the European Union, the United States and the Palestinians in order to be able to support this resolution and we are very happy that these issues can be affirmed in this context.

I would like to emphasize that the drafting of this resolution was an example of a process that has fostered mutual respect and compromise. Unlike so many resolutions that target Israel in a biased, unbalanced manner, this resolution demonstrates that finding the middle ground is beneficial to our mutual endeavours, and we hope that such a mechanism will be replicated in future resolutions that address the Middle East.

We believe that alleviating human suffering and enhancing the security, welfare and prosperity of all peoples in the Middle East are crucial components of successful peace initiatives, and the Israeli Government sets those goals as vital objectives. We have taken a number of steps to improve the humanitarian welfare of our Palestinian neighbours, such as working to the greatest extent possible in an environment marred by terrorism, to transport food, medicine, humanitarian assistance and other necessities to Palestinian areas.

Israeli and Palestinian civilians have endured great difficulty and pain as a result of ongoing terrorist activity during the past five years. We believe that this

dangerous phenomenon continues to serve as the largest obstacle to improving the humanitarian situation of the Palestinian people. The fact that terrorist organizations freely operate within the Palestinian Authority serves as a direct threat to Israeli and Palestinian civilians and the facilitation of humanitarian assistance.

Moreover, humanitarian efforts are all too often exploited by terrorist organizations. Several weeks ago, an important agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority regarding the border crossings was agreed upon. Currently, arrangements are being made to enable passage from Gaza to the West Bank. Unfortunately, Israel is receiving reports that known terrorists are freely crossing the Rafah border from Egypt into the Gaza Strip. The underlying cause of the violence in the region and the root of the humanitarian situation of the Palestinian people remains that unfortunate, yet preventable type of violence.

Having said all that, and despite the horrific terror act in Netanya a few days ago, it should be emphasized that, as of 12 December 2005, 23,000 Palestinian employees — 7,000 from the Gaza Strip and 16,000 from the West Bank — are approved to work in Israel in different sectors. In addition, 14,200 Palestinians who are international organization employees are crossing into Israel every day — 12,500 from the West Bank and 1,700 from the Gaza Strip.

Israel believes that humanitarian assistance must be provided without selectivity or politicization. Israel's decision to join consensus on this resolution should reflect that non-political good will. It should not be misconstrued as an endorsement of certain items within the text that contradict both the language expressed in the agreements of the parties and the underlying spirit of those agreements. Furthermore, it is important to emphasize that civilians on both sides in the conflict endure pain. No one party has a monopoly on suffering, and we must ensure that both peoples live without violence or fear.

The well-being of Palestinian and Israeli civilians alike will come about only through the mutual fulfilment of the obligations set out in the road map. The first phase of the road map requires the Palestinian Authority to put a stop to terrorism. Israel realizes that dismantling the terrorist infrastructure represents a difficult course of action. However, in order to advance towards peace, it is a necessary course of action. Israel remains hopeful that, with responsible leadership and effective institutions, the dismantling of terrorist organizations and a commitment to peaceful coexistence, Israelis and Palestinians can work together to improve the humanitarian conditions of both our peoples.

The President: I welcome the Secretary-General to the General Assembly.

We all have reason to warmly welcome the General Assembly's adoption today of several important resolutions in the humanitarian area. I want particularly to highlight the landmark resolution on strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, which establishes the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). This represents a major modernization and a great step forward for the basic framework of the United Nations coordination of international humanitarian assistance that was set out in General Assembly 46/182, adopted in 1991.

All members, whom I wish to thank, have worked hard on achieving that important outcome. I would like to express particular thanks to Ambassador Anders Lidén of Sweden and to the coordinator of the resolution, Mr. Pelle Enarsson, for successfully concluding the negotiation on that matter.

I would also like to express my gratitude here to the overall coordinator of these important humanitarian resolutions considered directly in plenary, Ambassador Jean-Marc Hoscheit of Luxembourg, for his able leadership in ensuring coherence and the timely conclusion of the humanitarian resolution. All of them have done a great job, and I thank them.

By today's action on the Central Emergency Response Fund, we have fulfilled the mandate given by our leaders, who last September called upon us in the summit outcome document to make concrete improvements to the humanitarian response system, including the timeliness and predictability of humanitarian funding. Today therefore also marks a day when we are moving from words to deeds and to the implementation of what our leaders decided in September.

By establishing the CERF, we have taken a critical decision to ensure that the international response to today's humanitarian crises is more effective and more equitable. Moreover, we have

demonstrated that the States Members of the United Nations are willing to meet the demands of the twenty-first century in this important area in a flexible and responsible way. I am grateful to Member States for their generous contributions to the Fund.

With this resolution, a sizeable grant element has been added to the existing CERF to help launch relief operations in the crucial days of a crisis, to prevent a crisis from spiralling out of control, and to address imbalances in emergency funding. We have called upon the Secretary-General to make the necessary managerial, administrative and advisory arrangements to launch and implement the new CERF. We have also affirmed the importance of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council in providing guidance for the use of the Fund, in line with the principles laid down in resolution 46/182 of 1991.

Improved humanitarian financing, however, is only one of the key components of the humanitarian reform process. We also need to strengthen the capacity of the global humanitarian system and continue to improve the coordination of humanitarian activities in the field. Work will proceed on that in the General Assembly in the spring.

These components of the humanitarian reform agenda must be taken forward together, across the Secretariat, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, if they are to be effective. All three areas deserve the continued attention and support of Member States.

We have adopted this resolution today with the support of donor and recipient countries, from those most prone to disasters and those most able and willing to lend assistance. Such broad ownership of this resolution demonstrates the truly global nature and impact of humanitarian crises and reinforces the need to act with common resolve. It is through our collective action and continued support of these reforms that we will succeed in improving the global humanitarian system and, by that, make a difference for human beings in dire need.

I am gratified that we are ending a particularly difficult year in terms of humanitarian crises on a more positive note. Images of the devastating effects of giant hurricanes in the Caribbean, of the mudslides in Central America and the horrific earthquakes in South Asia are still before us and are engraved in our minds and in our souls.

Here I would like to pay tribute to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), under the strong leadership of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, Jan Egeland, and to all the humanitarian organizations and staff who have helped alleviate the pain and suffering brought about by far too many man-made and natural disasters around the world.

The year 2005 demonstrated, in lives lost and in livelihoods destroyed, just how destructive, indiscriminate and widespread humanitarian emergencies can be. But today we have also seen that there is solidarity, there is passion in acting, there is compassion in acting. Without passion, nothing happens in life. Without compassion, the wrong things happen. Let us make a strengthened humanitarian response system our common commitment and our goal for 2006.

I now give the floor to the Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General: I am delighted that Member States have approved the standing Central Emergency Revolving Fund mandated by the outcome document of the world summit. As a result of this resolution, the upgraded Fund will become known as the Central Emergency Response Fund. The Assembly's action today ensures that in the critical realm of humanitarian assistance, the United Nations will do more and do it sooner.

As the States Members of the United Nations know better than anyone, the World Summit Outcome was a very ambitious document, and its follow-up is a daunting task. That was clear from the start, but it was also clear that a bold vision was necessary to prepare the United Nations for the twenty-first century. Today, thanks to the efforts of President Eliasson and of the entire membership, we celebrate our first success.

The Emergency Fund has been a critical part of broad humanitarian reform. As outlined in my report "In larger freedom", such reform must provide for more timely and predictable funding, a strengthened humanitarian response capacity and better field coordination.

For far too long, humanitarian assistance for disaster victims has remained a reactive process. Relief funds have been sought only after disaster has struck. Equally unacceptable is the unequal funding of different crises, with televised or strategically situated suffering receiving disproportionate attention. This has

meant that, all too often, as money trickled in, lives which could and should have been saved were lost.

That is why I am especially encouraged by the broad General Assembly consensus in favour of this new stand-by fund. I hope that this support will translate into generous and immediate funding. If it does, it will allow more equitable distribution of relief, based on demonstrated need. It will also allow us to make emergency grants for rescue work in the aftermath of disasters. Quite simply, it will save lives.

Already, at September's summit, donor nations have pledged $175 million in indicative support for the fund. Most of this money has been pledged by the European Union States. I thank them for their generosity and call on other Member States to contribute no less wholeheartedly.

For our part, we in the Secretariat will consult with Member States and with other stakeholders to work out detailed administrative and management arrangements for the stand-by Fund. We promise to manage it with utmost transparency. We will be accountable, and we shall provide full public disclosure of all donations and expenditures. I think that, as the President has indicated, this will allow the Humanitarian Coordinator and all our humanitarian staff to respond much more quickly, and it will provide an essential means of doing so that they have lacked over the past year, as we have seen in one crisis after the other.

I hope that more pieces of the summit follow-up puzzle will fall into place soon. In that regard, I look forward to next week's adoption by Member States of the revised draft resolution to establish the Peacebuilding Commission.

In the meantime, let me congratulate you, Mr. President, and the Assembly on today's historic achievement.

The President: I thank the Secretary-General for his important statement and for his encouragement and support for humanitarian work and for the humanitarian workers, out there in the field, here at home at Headquarters and all over the world. I wish also to thank him for his expression of solidarity with the victims of disasters, whom we should always keep in mind.

I give the floor to the observer of Palestine.

Ms. Rasheed (Palestine): On behalf of the delegation of Palestine, allow me to extend our thanks to the European Union for putting forth the resolution which was just adopted by consensus, entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people", and to thank all delegations for having supported this resolution.

We should also like to thank the European Union for the inclusion of language on Palestinian children in this resolution, following the outcome of successful negotiations held during this session. We believe that such an inclusion of language on Palestinian children in a consensus resolution in the General Assembly sends a very strong message to the Palestinian people that the international community has recognized and addressed the detrimental effects of the Israeli occupation on the lives of Palestinian children.

We believe also that this resolution will send a strong message of solidarity to the entire Palestinian population living under Israel's 38-year-long brutal occupation and will indeed greatly assist in ameliorating their tragic plight.

We look forward to the day when the Palestinian people will not have to depend on humanitarian assistance from the international community and will be able to live in their own independent State of Palestine, free from occupation, free from fear and State terrorism committed by Israel, the occupying power, and free from Israeli subjugation.

The President: With this, we can conclude these deliberations on these issues. May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 73?

There being no objection, it is so decided.

The President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 73 and its sub-item (a).

Mr. Hachani (Tunisia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

Agenda item 10

Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Report of the Secretary-General (A/60/556)

The Acting President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now consider agenda item 10, entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies". The report of the Secretary-General has been circulated in document A/60/556.

Mr. Choisuren (Mongolia): It is a great privilege and a distinct honour for me to speak here, representing the host country of the fifth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies (ICNRD), held in Ulaanbaatar in 2003. I speak here also in my capacity as current ICNRD Chair.

The global momentum towards democratization, generated over the last three decades, during which many States, including my own, have embarked upon a process of democratization and many others have moved to restore their democratic roots, is truly remarkable in its scope and strength. Democracy today is firmly established as a universal value. This was most recently reaffirmed by the world leaders in the outcome document of the recent world summit.

The movement of new or restored democracies, now global, was a product of the "third wave of democratization". Since its inception 17 years ago, the movement has, in its turn, played a prominent role in further promoting the process of democratization that has swept the world. The conferences of new or restored democracies have been a source of inspiration for many fledgling democracies in their struggle to build modern and functioning democratic societies based upon the principles of pluralism, respect for human rights, freedom of the press and democratic governance. The conferences have adopted important declarations and plans of action and have facilitated the exchange of views, experiences and lessons learnt among a wide array of new, restored and mature democracies.

Declarations and plans, though important, are not enough. They must be followed by concrete actions or, to borrow the words of the Secretary-General in his report *In larger freedom*, "commitments must be matched by performance". My country, Mongolia, with assistance from the United Nations Development Programme, has therefore initiated, for the first time in the history of ICNRD, the pioneering experience of implementing practical follow-up activities to the outcome documents of the conference and catalysing a process of national adaptation and development of the international democracy agenda. Information on the innovations that Mongolia is piloting within the framework of the ICNRD-5 follow-up is contained in the Secretary-General's report under this agenda item contained in document A/60/556. Allow me, nevertheless, to touch briefly upon some of these innovations.

The Government of Mongolia has launched a pilot programme aimed at: first, formulating a national plan of action to consolidate democracy, and secondly, developing nationally-owned democratic governance indicators and preparing a country information note for Mongolia to measure its democratic performance, thus establishing the baselines for and benchmarking the democratic process in the country. This programme will facilitate the design and piloting of methodologies that other new or restored democracies can use in the preparation of their national action plans, country information notes and democracy indicators databases, as agreed under the Ulaanbaatar Plan of Action.

In the context of developing democratic governance indicators and the national plan of action, Mongolia held its very first national state-of-democracy conference in June of this year. It brought together representatives of Government and civil society in an all-inclusive discussion of the quality of democracy in the country, its opportunities and challenges, and democratic solutions to crucial development issues Mongolia is now facing. Regional dialogues and consultations are now being planned to share Mongolia's follow-up experiences with other new or restored democracies.

Let me underline the importance of the growing need to assess progress in democratization. Improving the quality of democracy has become a political requirement in both the new or restored democracies and the mature democracies. Today, a general commitment to the norms of democracy is no longer enough. The development of democracy assessment methodologies and governance indicator exercises contributes to the systematic assessment of a country's political life by the people in democracies and helps to answer the question: how democratic is a society in practice? How far have we progressed and what needs to be done to strengthen democracy in the future? So far, it is only in the Fifth ICNRD outcome documents that the Governments of new or restored democracies, along with their counterparts from mature democracies,

have expressed their willingness to develop nationally-owned democratic governance indicator databases to be better able to monitor their progress in democratic and social development over time. The development of such indicators in Mongolia will be the first attempt to produce a democracy assessment under the aegis of a governmental institution — the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in our case.

Democracy is not an abstract value; it has a direct impact on the everyday lives of people. As our leaders stressed in the outcome document, democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing; therefore, the socio-economic dimension of democratization must be fully taken into account lest we put to risk the very credibility of that process. Accordingly, the democratic governance indicators in Mongolia will be specifically tailored to the requirements of Mongolian policymakers and responsive to priorities for reforms on the policy agenda from the point of view of the people, especially the poor and other disadvantaged groups.

My delegation expresses its gratitude to the Secretary-General for his observation that significant progress has been made by Mongolia in ensuring a more effective follow-up to the recommendations adopted at the Fifth International Conference. I would like especially to note the group of friends of the Chair, which was established during the Fifth ICNRD with the purpose of assisting the Chair in the run-up to the next ICNRD, as an important innovation in that respect. We also agree with the Secretary-General on the necessity to further discuss the strengthening and broadening in scope and substance of the implementation process of the decisions taken at each Conference.

The Secretary-General, in his report on support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies, also touched upon the coordination between the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies and other global and regional intergovernmental democracy movements or organizations, including the Community of Democracies. Indeed, mutually supportive language has been adopted by both the ICNRD, with its all-inclusive composition, and the Community, with its more limited approach to membership. The Ulaanbaatar Declaration of the Fifth ICNRD encouraged

> "the two forums to work closely together in the pursuit of the common goal of developing and deepening democracy throughout the world",

and the Community of Democracies, at its third ministerial meeting held earlier this year in Santiago, took a commitment to

> "encourage cooperation with the ICNRD as an intergovernmental forum to promote and consolidate democratic governance in emerging and new democracies".

Mongolia, in its capacity as ICNRD Chair, a participating State of the Community of Democracies, and now a member of the Convening Group of the Community, has been proactive in its efforts to bring the two global intergovernmental movements aimed at democracy promotion and consolidation closer together. For example, Mongolia, as ICNRD Chair, participated earlier this year in the Community-led delegation to Georgia to share democratic experiences. Moreover, my delegation recently developed a non-paper on possible ways of bringing the two movements — ICNRD and the Community of Democracies — closer together and distributed it among the wide membership of the ICNRD, seeking their views. One of the first practical steps for the two movements, in our view, could be the participation of a Community of Democracies delegation in the regional activities on the exchange of experiences in follow-up to the Fifth ICNRD that Mongolia is planning to organize.

In the same vein, Mongolia can only welcome the initiative of the Secretary-General to initiate a study on the comparative advantages, complementarity and desirable distribution of labour of various intergovernmental democracy movements, organizations and institutes, be they global or regional, and on how the United Nations system has worked and could further work with them in a mutually supportive way. Such a study, we hope, will be conducive to the global democracy promotion and consolidation effort by presenting concrete proposals and recommendations on streamlining and bringing more coherence into the actions of different stakeholders in that process, as well as the role and possible support of the United Nations system.

Democratization is not an event; it is a process that takes years or even decades of relentless effort. Democracy is also a process that grows from within societies, but can and should be supported from outside. The United Nations, as an embodiment of the collective will of the world's peoples, has a natural role to play in supporting democracy around the globe. It was reassuring to witness this year an important development in that particular field of United Nations activities — the establishment of the Democracy Fund at the United Nations, which my country was among the first to welcome.

The role of well-designed development and democracy-building assistance in the circumstances of an underdeveloped democracy cannot be overestimated. We must always bear in mind that there is no "one size fits all" democracy recipe, just as there are no absolutely similar recipes for development challenges. The best assistance is one that is sensitive to national specificities and also mindful of universal lessons that we have all accumulated in the past 30 years of the third wave of democratization. My delegation therefore welcomes the fact that the primary purpose of the Fund will be to support projects that consolidate and strengthen democratic institutions and facilitate democratic governance in new or restored democracies within the particular historical and cultural context of the country and region concerned, and looks forward to its early operationalization.

Guided by Mongolia's post-communist transition experience and its responsibility as Chair of the Fifth ICNRD, we believe that capacity-building and institution-building related to democratic governance and the rule of law, including aspects relevant to the implementation of international legal instruments on human rights and freedoms, should be the focus of the first-generation activities of the Democracy Fund. I would also like to emphasize that ICNRD, as an all-inclusive movement reflective of the composition of the United Nations membership, and with a serious substantive agenda on democratic governance and civil society, could also become a Democracy Fund partner in advancing the international democracy agenda.

In conclusion, let me note that my delegation will introduce in the near future a draft resolution under this agenda item, the text of which we shall distribute to all delegations early next week. We sincerely hope that the draft resolution will be able to command the same or greater support and number of sponsorships from among the Member States than in previous years.

Mr. Thomson (United Kingdom): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the 25 countries of the European Union. A number of other countries have aligned themselves with this statement. They are Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Croatia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, Iceland, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova.

The European Union (EU) is committed to the implementation and promotion worldwide of democratic principles. The EU warmly welcomes the reaffirmation, contained in the outcome document of the world summit, that democracy is a universal value and that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are all interdependent and mutually reinforcing. The promotion and protection of human rights are prerequisites for the existence of a democratic society, while democracy is the best means of ensuring the full realization and implementation of all human rights in the long term. Together, they help deliver genuine prosperity, progress and sustainable development. It is for this reason that the protection and advancement of democracy and the rule of law are among the top priorities for the international community.

The European Union considers that international peace and security can best be served by the spread and consolidation of democracy. A well coordinated policy within the framework of the United Nations can help to achieve peaceful solutions to the conflicts that are threatening stability in different areas of the world and to enable democracy to take root where it has never existed before, or where it has been eliminated by war, dictatorship or the breakdown of civil society.

It is equally necessary to shore up democratic institutions in countries in transition and to support democracy in all countries that have recently moved to a democratic system. We share the assessment of the Secretary-General in his report entitled "In larger freedom" that "The United Nations does more than any other single organization to promote and strengthen democratic institutions and practices around the world" (*A/59/2005, para. 151*).

Because of the authority of the United Nations, the European Union considers the United Nations the most appropriate international framework within which

to work to enhance and promote democracy and human rights throughout the world. In particular, we would like to underline the role played by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and her focal point on democracy. The European Union welcomes the establishment of the United Nations Democracy Fund to take forward that vital work. We encourage the Secretary-General and the Fund to take stock of the experiences and activities of the United Nations and other international and regional organizations in that field and to cooperate closely with them in that task.

Spreading good governance, supporting social and political reform, dealing with corruption and abuse of power, establishing the rule of law and protecting human rights are the best means of strengthening the international order. Accordingly, the European Union is committed to promoting democratization through its own cooperation programmes and in support of the United Nations.

The representative of Mongolia has just referred to the fifth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from 10 to 12 September 2003. The European Union noted that the outcome of that Conference proved there was growing support for strengthening democracy in all the regions of the world. A system of government which is based on the rule of law, democracy allows the free expression of political opinions through electoral and other participatory mechanisms, and guarantees the independence of the judiciary, freedom of the media and the promotion of human society, including the fight against exclusion and poverty.

The participants in the Ulaanbaatar Conference endorsed those democratic principles while acknowledging that there was no one, ideal model for democracy. The European Union agrees. The Conference also addressed the many challenges to democracy, among which are poverty, international terrorism, transnational economic crime, HIV/AIDS and blatant disregard for human rights. It was agreed that while it is crucial to fight such threats effectively, that must be done without eroding human rights or resorting to repression.

Mr. Hachani (Tunisia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The European Union would like once again to thank Mongolia for successfully hosting the 2003 Conference. We look forward to the sixth International Conference that is due to take place in Qatar in November 2006 as an opportunity to consolidate the gains that have been made and to tackle the challenges ahead.

The Acting President (*spoke in French*): In accordance with resolution 57/32 of 19 November 2002, I call upon the Observer of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Mrs. Filip (Inter-Parliamentary Union): I am pleased to take the floor and to refer to the report of the Secretary-General under consideration today on the efforts under way to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (A/60/556), and to expand a bit on the contribution that the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is bringing to that process.

Back in 1997, the member parliaments of the IPU developed and adopted a Universal Declaration on Democracy which has since guided much of our action, particularly as it relates to providing relevant assistance to young parliamentary institutions and building capacities therein. Parliament is, after all, the main institution of the State where the voices of all, majority and minorities, should be heard and their interests adequately articulated. It is in parliaments that the diverging interests of a nation compete and are, or should be, channelled towards the single objective of ensuring the common good, which inevitably includes the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

On the occasion of the fifth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, some two years ago, the IPU worked together with the Parliament of Mongolia in organizing a parliamentary forum aimed at looking at the role of parliaments in promoting democracy. Indeed, as the overall theme of the fifth Conference was democracy, good governance and civil society, the theme was reflected in the parliamentary forum and participants focused on how parliaments could strengthen democracy in partnership with civil society and how that role could be fulfilled in a coherent and coordinated manner at the national and international levels. The overarching focus of the debates was participation as a cornerstone of democracy.

At the end of their deliberations, members of parliament who attended the event, numbering some 120 from over 50 countries, adopted a declaration that was subsequently endorsed by the IPU's full

membership. That declaration reiterates the core principles and values of participation, transparency and accountability and outlines the key ingredients of any democracy — respect for human rights, including freedom of expression and association, the rule of law, partnership between men and women in political life and the existence of a vibrant civil society.

The Declaration also contains a menu of proposed parliamentary action in support of democracy. It includes, but is not limited to, undertaking structural and legislative reforms at the national level to facilitate the greater participation of women in decision-making, fostering integrity and public trust and confidence in public institutions through more rigorous application of codes of conduct, and generally seeking more effective parliamentary oversight processes and structures. Also, there was a strong sense that democracy should not remain a theoretical concept.

The forum spent a great deal of time debating ways in which democracy could be translated into concrete and practical reality. For instance, democracy should help to combat corruption through more transparency in the management of public affairs as a means of ensuring accountable, honest and effective government.

The Ulaanbaatar parliamentarian forum was the first such event at the International Conference. It was thus an innovative and successful experience as evidenced by the agreement of the main Conference for it to become a permanent feature of the Conference.

Therefore, on the occasion of the sixth International Conference next year in Doha, parliamentarians will provide an important opportunity to take stock of the progress achieved in the restoration, establishment and consolidation of democratic processes at the national level — for example, more countries holding free elections, establishing representative institutions, including parliaments, and allowing for the plurality of expression. It will also allow for a review of the areas where more efforts will need to be deployed, including through more balanced representation of men and women in political processes.

For its part, the IPU has been following up on a number of the recommendations of the forum. It is currently in the process of updating its standards in the area of elections. It has recently published a compendium of expert papers on developments in the electoral field, including innovative mechanisms by which to judge elections. Early next year, it expects to publish an updated version of its publication *Free and Fair Elections: International Law and Practice*. That publication was first issued 10 years ago, and contains the text of the Declaration on Criteria for Free and Fair Elections, which has been used worldwide as a guide for those involved in organizing and monitoring elections.

Another exercise on which the IPU has embarked as a direct follow-up to the parliamentarians' forum in Ulaanbaatar is a project to establish a framework for democracy from the parliamentary perspective. That project is identifying good practices by parliaments in promoting democracy, with a specific focus on representation at both the national and international levels. The resulting framework should serve as a guide for encouraging the promotion by parliaments of processes and mechanisms that enhance democracy. That project is expected to be concluded by the middle of 2006 and will serve as an important contribution to the sixth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies and the related parliamentarians' forum, to be held in Doha, Qatar, in November 2006.

Last but not least, in addition to those efforts the IPU has continued its work to assist in strengthening capacities in parliaments in emerging democracies such as Afghanistan, Burundi, Equatorial Guinea, Timor-Leste, Albania and — hopefully very soon — Iraq.

In conclusion, I would like to mention that the IPU welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General to call for a study on the comparative advantages, complementarity and desirable distribution of labour of various intergovernmental and inter-State democracy movements, organizations and institutes, whether global or regional, and on how the United Nations system has worked and could further work with them in a mutually supportive way. The IPU stand ready to be part of that process and looks forward to a more in-depth discussion on this issue next year in Doha.

The Acting President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 10.

The meeting rose at 12.05 p.m.

United Nations A/60/PV.64

General Assembly
Sixtieth session

Official Records

64th plenary meeting
Friday, 16 December 2005, 3 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Eliasson ..... (Sweden)

The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

Reports of the Third Committee

The President: The General Assembly will consider the reports of the Third Committee on agenda items 39, 61 to 65, 67 to 71, 106, 107 and 116.

I request Mr. Pedro Cardoso of Brazil, Rapporteur of the Third Committee, to introduce, in one intervention, the reports of the Third Committee.

Mr. Cardoso (Brazil), Rapporteur of the Third Committee: I have the honour to introduce, for the consideration of the General Assembly, the reports of the Third Committee on the agenda items allocated to it by the Assembly.

Under agenda item 39, entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 17 of document A/60/499, the adoption of three draft resolutions; and, in paragraph 18 of the same report, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 61, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 12 of document A/60/500, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 62, entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 27 of document A/60/501, the adoption of four draft resolutions; and, in paragraph 28 of the same report, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 63, entitled "Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 9 of document A/60/502, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 64, entitled "Advancement of women", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 48 of document A/60/503, the adoption of six draft resolutions; and, in paragraph 49 of the same report, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 65, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 10 of document A/60/504, the adoption one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 67, entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 46 of document A/60/505, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

05-64817 (E)

Under agenda item 68, entitled "Indigenous issues", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 12 of document A/60/506, the adoption of one draft resolution; and, in paragraph 13 of the same report, the adoption of one draft decision.

The report of the Third Committee under agenda item 69, entitled, "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination", is contained in documents A/60/507 and A/60/507/Corr.1. In paragraph 21 of the former, the Third Committee recommends the adoption of two draft resolutions; and, in paragraph 22 of the same report, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 70, entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 17 of document A/60/508, the adoption of two draft resolutions; and, in paragraph 18 of the same report, the adoption one draft decision.

The report of the Third Committee under agenda item 71, entitled "Human rights questions", has been issued in seven parts, which are contained in documents A/60/509, A/60/509/Add.1, A/60/509/Add.2 (Part I), A/60/509/Add.2 (Part II), A/60/509/Add.3, A/60/509/Add.4 and A/60/509/Add.5.

In paragraph 5 of document A/60/509, the Third Committee recommends the adoption of one draft decision.

Under sub-item (a) of agenda item 71, entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 23 of document A/60/509/Add.1, the adoption of three draft resolutions.

The report issued under sub-item (b) of agenda item 71, entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms", has been issued in two parts. In paragraph 21 of document A/60/509/Add.2 (Part I), the Third Committee recommends the adoption of one draft resolution. In paragraph 102 of document A/60/509/Add.2 (Part II), the Third Committee recommends the adoption of 20 draft resolutions.

Under sub-item (c) of agenda item 71, entitled "Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 70 of document A/60/509/Add.3, the adoption of six draft resolutions.

The reports of the Third Committee contained in documents A/60/509/Add.4 and A/60/509/Add.5, indicate that no proposals were submitted under sub-item (d) of agenda item 71, entitled "Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action", or sub-item (e) of the same agenda item, entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights".

Under agenda item 106, entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 21 of document A/60/510, the adoption of three draft resolutions; and, in paragraph 22 of the same document, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 107, entitled "International drug control", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 15 of document A/60/511, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Finally, under agenda item 116, entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/60/512, the adoption of two draft decisions.

Before concluding, I should like to thank the members of the Bureau of the Third Committee, as well as the members of the Secretariat, for their support and help in ensuring the successful completion of the work of the Committee. Having said that, I respectfully commend the reports of the Third Committee to the General Assembly for its consideration.

The President: I thank Mr. Pedro Cardoso of Brazil, Rapporteur of the Third Committee, for his introduction of the reports of the Third Committee.

If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Third Committee that are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Third Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records. May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that,

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I further remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in reports of the Third Committee, I would like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Third Committee, unless the Secretariat is notified otherwise in advance. That means that where recorded votes or separate votes were taken, we will do the same. I would also hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Third Committee.

Agenda item 39

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/499)

The President: The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 17 of its report, as well as a draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 18 of the same report. We shall now take a decision on draft resolutions I to III, and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

> *Draft resolution I was adopted* (resolution 60/127).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

> *Draft resolution II was adopted* (resolution 60/128).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

> *Draft resolution III was adopted* (resolution 60/129).

The President: I call on the representative of Azerbaijan on a point of order.

Ms. Adjalova (Azerbaijan): With regard to resolution 60/129, I would like to inform the General Assembly that Azerbaijan withdrew its sponsorship at the time that action was taken in the Third Committee. That fact was not reflected in the report before us, and we would like to request the Secretariat to ensure that it is recorded.

The President: We turn now to the draft decision, entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors".

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 18 of its report?

> *The draft decision was adopted.*

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 39?

> *It was so decided.*

Agenda item 61

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/500)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 12 of its report in document A/60/500.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Third Committee adopted the draft

resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/130).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 61?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 62

Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/501)

The President: The Assembly has before it four draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 27 of its report in document A/60/501, and one draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 28 of the same report.

We will now take decisions on draft resolutions I through IV and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/131).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Cooperatives in social development". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 60/132).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 60/133).

The President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Follow-up to the implementation of the International Year of Volunteers". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 60/134).

The President: We now turn to the draft decision, entitled "Report considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of social development".

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 28 of its report?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 62?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 63

Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/502)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 9 of its report in document A/60/502.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing". The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/135).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 63?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 64

Advancement of women

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/503)

The President: The Assembly has before it six draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 48 of its report in document A/60/503, and one draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 49 of the same report.

I should like to inform members that action on draft resolution IV, entitled "Future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women", and draft resolution VI, entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women", is postponed to a later date to allow time for the review of their programme budget implications by the Fifth Committee. The Assembly will take action on draft resolutions IV and VI as soon as the reports of the Fifth Committee on their programme budget implications are available.

We will now take decisions on draft resolutions I, II, III and V and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "In-depth study on all forms of violence against women". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/136).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "United Nations Development Fund for Women". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 60/137).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 60/138).

The President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Violence against women migrant workers". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 60/139).

The President: We now turn to the draft decision, entitled "Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women".

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 49 of its report?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 64.

Agenda item 65

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/504)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 10 of its report in document A/60/504.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly".

The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/140).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 65?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 67

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/505)

The President: The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 46 of its report in document A/60/505.

I should like to inform members that action on draft resolution II, entitled "Rights of the child", is postponed to a later date to allow time for the review of its programme budget implications by the Fifth Committee. The Assembly will take action on draft resolution II as soon as the reports of the Fifth Committee on its programme budget implications is available.

We will now take a decision on draft resolution I, entitled "The girl child". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/141).

The President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 67.

Agenda item 68

Indigenous issues

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/506)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 12 of its report in document A/60/506 and a draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 13 of the same report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution and on the draft decision.

The draft resolution is entitled "Programme of Action for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People". The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 60/142).

The President: The draft decision is entitled "Report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people".

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 13 of its report?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 68?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 69

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/507 and Corr.1)

The President: The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 21 of its report in document A/60/507 and one draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 22 of the same report.

We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I and II and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Inadmissibility of certain practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana,

Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Japan, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 114 votes to 4, with 57 abstentions (resolution 60/143).

[Subsequently the delegation of Lebanon informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay,

Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Canada, Palau, Tuvalu.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 172 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions (resolution 60/144).

The President: The Assembly will now turn to the draft decision, entitled "Report of the Secretary-General under agenda item 69".

May I take it that the General Assembly decides to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 22 of its report?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 69?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 70

Right of peoples to self-determination

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/508)

The President: The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 17 of its report in document A/60/508 and one draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph of 18 of the same report.

I call on the representative of the United States to speak in explanation of vote.

Mr. Godard (United States of America): The United States has worked continuously to support the social and economic development, as well as legitimate political aspirations, of the Palestinian people. The level of United States assistance for Palestinians' needs compares favourably to that of any other country in the world. The United States has no quarrel with the "right of the Palestinian people to self-determination". President Bush articulated clearly that the United States objective is two sovereign, democratic States — Israel and Palestine — living side by side in peace and security.

The United States, working with the Palestinian Authority and the international community, has focused substantial resources on strengthening the Palestinian Authority's institutions and providing assistance to ensure democratic elections. President Bush recently welcomed Palestinian Authority President Abbas to the White House. Recent progress on the ground, including the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza, and the 15 November Agreement on Movement and Access between Israel and the Palestinian Authority are historic and show that progress is made when Israeli and Palestinian officials work together with the support of the international community. In this regard, the opening of Rafah on 25 November marked an important step in building trust between the parties as we work to renew progress along the road map.

The United States cannot support the draft resolution under consideration. The draft resolution and others like it reflect an outdated approach conceived when the Palestinian people lacked democratic leadership and believed that the solution to their problems lay in the United Nations. There is a role for the United Nations in this issue, but that role is in supporting the two parties to the conflict. One-sided resolutions from the Assembly undermine the credibility of the United Nations and, ultimately, its effectiveness.

The President: A number of representatives have indicated to the Secretariat that their names were not included in the list of sponsors of draft resolution II, entitled "The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination", contained in document A/60/508. In that connection, I give the floor to the Director of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management.

Ms. Kelley (Director, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management): Regrettably, document A/60/508 failed to list the names of the additional sponsors of draft resolution II, entitled "The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination". I would like for the record to read out those names and to assure the

Assembly that they will be included in the final version of the report.

The additional sponsors of draft resolution II, on the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, are: Andorra, Armenia, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, the Comoros, Costa Rica, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Finland, France, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Malta, Monaco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Saint Lucia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The President: We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I and II and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/145).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 170 votes to 5, with 1 abstention (resolution 60/146).

The President: The draft decision is entitled "Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the rights of peoples to self-determination". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 18 of its report?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 70?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 71 (*continued*)

Human rights questions

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/509)

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 5 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision.

The draft decision, entitled "Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of human rights", was adopted by the Third Committee. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 71.

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/509/Add.1)

The President: The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 23 of its report.

We will now take decisions on draft resolutions I to III.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/147).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 60/148).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "International Covenants on Human Rights". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 60/149).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 71?

It was so decided.

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/509/Add.2 (Parts I and II))

The President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 21 of part I of its report and 20 draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 102 of part II of its report.

Before proceeding further, I should like to inform members that action on the draft resolution entitled "Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities", contained in part I of the report, is postponed to a later date to allow time for the review of its programme budget implications by the Fifth Committee. The Assembly will take action on the draft resolution as soon as the report of the Fifth Committee on its programme budget implications is available.

I now call on the representative of the United States of America, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote before the voting.

Mr. Godard (United States of America): With regard to draft resolution X under this item, entitled "Human rights in the administration of justice", the United States would like to bring to the attention of the General Assembly the amendments to operative paragraphs 1 and 2 submitted by our delegation during consideration of the draft resolution by the Third Committee.

While we are not going to re-submit these now, we would like to reaffirm our position. In particular, we have strong concerns with the reference in paragraph 1 to implementing "all United Nations standards on human rights", which include a variety of non-binding norms and recommendations.

The United States takes seriously our commitment to fully implement human rights obligations we have undertaken, and we believe that that more limited and accurate language should be used when addressing this topic in future resolutions of this nature.

The President: We will now take decisions, one by one, on the 20 draft resolutions recommended in paragraph 102 of part II of the report. After all the decisions have been taken, representatives will again have the opportunity to explain their votes.

We first turn to draft resolution I, entitled "Combating defamation of religions".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Armenia, Botswana, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Honduras, India, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 101 to 53, with 20 abstentions (resolution 60/150).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 60/151).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso,

Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Brazil, Chile, Iraq, Singapore

Draft resolution III was adopted by 121 to 33, with 4 abstentions (resolution 60/152).

The President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Establishment of a United Nations human rights training and documentation centre for South-West Asia and the Arab region". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 60/153).

The President: Draft resolution V is entitled "National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 60/154).

The President: Draft resolution VI is entitled "Human rights and unilateral coercive measures".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the

Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 125 to 53, with no abstentions (resolution 60/155).

The President: Draft resolution VII is entitled "Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VII without a vote. May I take it the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution VII was adopted (resolution 60/156).

The President: Draft resolution VIII is entitled "The right to development".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Marshall Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, Palau.

Draft resolution VIII was adopted by 172 votes to 2, with 5 abstentions (resolution 60/157).

The President: Draft resolution IX is entitled "Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism." The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IX without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IX was adopted (resolution 60/158).

The President: Draft resolution X is entitled "Human rights in the administration of justice." The Third Committee adopted draft resolution X without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution X was adopted (resolution 60/159).

The President: Draft resolution XI is entitled "Effective promotion of the Declaration of the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities." The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XI without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution XI was adopted (resolution 60/160).

The President: Draft resolution XII is entitled "Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution XII was adopted (resolution 60/161).

The President: Draft resolution XIII is entitled "Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization".

A separate vote has been requested on the fifth preambular paragraph of draft resolution XIII. I shall first put that paragraph to the vote.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The fifth preambular paragraph of draft resolution XVIII was retained by 136 votes to none, with 31 abstentions.

[Subsequently, the delegation of the Sudan informed the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain.]

The President: I now put to the vote the draft resolution as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Tuvalu.

Draft resolution XIII as a whole was adopted by 173 votes to none, with 1 abstention (resolution 60/162).

The President: Draft resolution XIV is entitled "Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste,

Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Chile, India, Mexico, Samoa, Singapore, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution XIV was adopted by 116 votes to 53, with 8 abstentions (resolution 60/163).

The President: Draft resolution XV is entitled "Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and diversity of democratic systems in electoral processes as an important element for the promotion and protection of human rights".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution XV was adopted by 110 votes to 6, with 61 abstentions (resolution 60/164).

The President: Draft resolution XVI is entitled "The right to food".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Israel.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 176 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 60/165).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Guyana informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: Draft resolution XVII is entitled "Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XVII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution XVII was adopted (resolution 60/166).

The President: Draft resolution XVIII is entitled "Human rights and cultural diversity". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XVIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XVIII was adopted (resolution 60/167).

The President: Draft resolution XIX is entitled "Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XIX without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XIX was adopted (resolution 60/168).

The President: Draft resolution XX is entitled "Protection of migrants". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XX without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XX was adopted (resolution 60/169).

The President: I shall now give the floor to those representatives wishing to speak in explanation of position on the resolutions just adopted.

Mrs. Hasteh (Islamic Republic of Iran): We join the consensus on draft resolution IV, entitled "Establishment of a United Nations human rights training and documentation centre for South-West Asia

and the Arab region", which was just adopted under agenda item 71 (b). Nevertheless, my delegation would like to dissociate itself from the content of the twelfth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution.

Mr. Amoros (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): In the context of the review of the current report, my delegation would like to explain its position concerning draft resolutions II and V.

In the first case, my delegation believes that the application of the elements approved in draft resolution II must be limited to, and interpreted according to, the subregional context provided for in the text.

With respect to draft resolution V, on national institutions, we cannot consider the reference made in operative paragraph 22 to the so-called action 2 initiative of the Secretary-General to be an endorsement of that initiative. My delegation believes that the provisions of General Assembly resolution 57/300 set out the intergovernmental framework for the implementation of this measure. In other words, this does not mean that my delegation endorses action 2. We believe that there is still much to be discussed in that respect.

Ms. Taracena Secaira (Guatemala) (*spoke in Spanish*): With respect to draft resolution I, "Combating defamation of religions", my delegation would like to state that Guatemala does not accept and condemns the defamation of any religion whose principles and practices are compatible with human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Guatemala defends the principles of tolerance, non-discrimination and freedom of worship. However, we believe that this resolution lacks balance in giving more importance to one religion than to others. Despite that fact, we voted in favour of the resolution, and we hope that in future it would be more inclusive and also condemn intolerance towards minorities whose religion is not the official State religion.

Mr. Abdelmannan (Sudan) (*spoke in Arabic*): I would like to explain our position with regard to draft resolution XVII. My delegation joined the consensus on operative paragraph 4 (a) of the draft resolution on the understanding that it would not be contradictory to the very religious beliefs and principles to which it refers.

Mr. Wood (United Kingdom): I am taking the floor on behalf of the European Union in connection with draft resolution VIII, entitled "The right to development". I do not want to take the time of the Assembly by making a full, substantive explanation of vote, but I wanted to recall the fact that the European Union as a whole was able to vote in favour of draft resolution VIII, unlike in the Third Committee. I should also like to draw attention to the contents of the explanation of vote that the European Union made at the time of adoption.

The President: We have heard the last speaker in explanation of vote after the vote.

The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 71.

Programme of work

The President: I should like to inform members that it is my intention that the General Assembly will take action on draft resolution A/60/L.40, entitled "Peacebuilding Commission" on Tuesday, 20 December.

I should like to commend the Third Committee for its excellent work. I am sure that continued deliberations will occur in the same good spirit. Again, I thank members for their cooperation. I look forward to the meeting of the General Assembly at which it will duly consider action on 20 December.

Ms. Bahemuka (Kenya), Vice-President, took the Chair.

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/509/Add.3)

The Assembly has before it six draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 70 of its report.

Before proceeding further, I should like to inform members that action on draft resolution VI, entitled "Situation of human rights in Myanmar", is postponed to a later date to allow time for the review of its programme budget implications by the Fifth Committee. The Assembly will take action on draft resolution VI as soon as the report of the Fifth Committee on its programme budget implications is available.

The representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has requested to speak in explanation of vote before the vote, and I give him the floor.

Mr. Sin Song Chol (Democratic People's Republic of Korea): The Democratic People's Republic of Korea categorically rejects draft resolution IV, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea", submitted by the European Union, as a political plot against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by the United States of America and its allies. The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea questions the legitimacy of the draft resolution for the following reasons.

First, the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea draws the attention of Member States to the fact that the draft resolution was submitted by the kingpins of human rights violations, namely the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom on behalf of the European Union.

As for the United States, it is a criminal State, historically living on war and massacre. At this point, the United States, having occupied sovereign States by force, is indiscriminately killing innocent people by using chemical weapons such as white phosphorus without hesitation. The United States routinely kidnaps innocent people on the pretence that they are terrorist suspects, and tortures them in secret prisons. Now, the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary of State and other high officials of the Administration are all claiming, in defiance of international law, that torture is legitimate.

As for Japan, it is a war-criminal State of the Second World War. It has not settled the issue of the crimes against humanity that it committed in the twentieth century. Rather, it embellishes those crimes and is pushing forward with preparations to repeat its criminal history.

Now, Japan has inserted a clause on abductions into the draft resolution and is demanding that the countries of Asia and Africa support it. The abduction issue that Japan is talking about refers to incidents that took place by chance, in the context of the hostile relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan in the 1970s. That issue was duly resolved during Prime Minister Koizumi's visit to Pyongyang. The problem is that the conservative hardliners continue to use it politically.

However, Japan's abduction of Korean people has not been settled at all. During its 40-year occupation of Korea, Japan mobilized, by force or by abduction, 8.4 million people for military service, for forced labour at coal mines and to serve as sex slaves for the Japanese army. Japan has so far not given any information on the fate or the whereabouts of those individuals.

Even today, Japan continues to engage in the criminal act of abducting citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In that regard, I am going to announce incidents of Japan's abduction of citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that have not yet been made known to the international community. Japan sends various non-governmental organizations to the border area between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and China. Those individuals are engaged in secret operations to lure and abduct Japanese-Korean citizens to take them to the Japanese islands. Some members of those Japanese non-governmental organizations were arrested by the Chinese public security authorities for their illegal activities and were expelled.

I would like to recall that at the normalization talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan, held in Beijing in early November, we raised that issue with the Japanese side and demanded that our citizens abducted to Japan be sent back to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The United Kingdom, for its part, grew fat on hundreds of years of colonial exploitation and massacre. Today, the United Kingdom's zealous junior collaborator, the United States, wages aggression against sovereign States and violates international law and human rights under the slogan of a war on terror. In that regard, the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea makes it very clear that the European Union is nothing less than hypocritical when it poses as a human rights champion. It is cowardly and hypocritical for the European Union to cry for human rights in small and weak countries while turning away from horrible human rights violations committed by the United States and the United Kingdom.

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea raises the following question: what on Earth do justice, fairness and legitimacy mean when the kingpins of human rights violations are free to use

their strength to blame other countries on human rights issues.

Secondly, the draft resolution uses the issue of human rights for political purposes against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The United States, the United Kingdom and Japan are using human rights issues, together with the nuclear issue, to pursue the overthrow of our social system. The United States has enacted the North Korean Human Rights Act and is investing $24 million on the issue of North Korean human rights every year, and innumerable bogus human rights organizations from the United States, Japan, South Korea and European countries are engaging in subversive operations against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea just to get paid from that fund. In that regard, I once again highlight the fact that the draft resolution is based on false information fabricated by those bogus non-governmental organizations. The anti-Democratic People's Republic of Korea manoeuvring by the United States and Japan using human rights issues is itself a violation of human rights and international law.

Thirdly, the European Union's draft resolution damages the authority and the credibility of the United Nations. The United States, the United Kingdom and Japan are pressing developing countries hard to change their position and support the draft resolution. In the Third Committee, many Asian and African countries voted against or abstained on the European Union's draft resolution, based on a principled position against politicization, double standards and selectivity on human rights issues. The United States, the United Kingdom and Japan were alarmed at the result of the vote and stepped up pressure on those countries to change their positions. We feel particularly sick of Japan's desperate campaign to force its will on other countries by exerting its economic influence.

All those facts and realities eloquently demonstrate that the draft resolution, even if it is adopted with majority support in the Assembly, would not carry the lofty authority and legitimacy of a resolution of the General Assembly.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a country with a small territory and a small population, whereas the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan and the European Union are big Powers boasting military and economic strength. The people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are very proud that they firmly safeguard their sovereignty against the pressure of the united forces of the United Kingdom, the United States, Japan and the European Union, and they are resolved to defend and further develop the superior people-centred system that they have chosen by themselves.

The Acting President: We shall now take decisions on draft resolutions I through V.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo". Separate votes have been requested on the fourth preambular paragraph and on operative paragraph 9 (c) of draft resolution I. Is there any objection to those requests?

In the absence of objection, I shall first put to a vote the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution I, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of

Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zambia.

Against:

Rwanda, Uganda.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

The fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution I was retained by 96 votes to 2, with 60 abstentions.

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 9 (c) of draft resolution I, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zambia.

Against:

Rwanda, Uganda.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 9 (c) of draft resolution I was retained by 96 votes to 2, with 61 abstentions.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution I as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-

Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Egypt, Rwanda, Uganda.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

Draft resolution I as a whole was adopted by 102 votes to 3, with 67 abstentions (resolution 60/170).

The Acting President: We turn now to draft resolution II, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu.

Against:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama,

Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 75 votes to 50, with 43 abstentions (resolution 60/171).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Mauritania informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote against.]

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Situation of human rights in Turkmenistan".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against:

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Gambia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zambia.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 71 votes to 35, with 60 abstentions (resolution 60/172).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against:

Belarus, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 88 votes to 21, with 60 abstentions (resolution 60/173).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Situation of human rights in Uzbekistan".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu.

Against:

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia.

Draft resolution V was adopted by 74 votes to 39, with 56 abstentions (resolution 60/174).

The Acting President: I now call on those delegations who wish to speak in explanation of vote.

Mr. Ozawa (Japan): My delegation made a statement at the adoption of the resolution on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the Third Committee and thus does not wish to repeat what was said then, although we are disturbed by false allegations and unconstructive remarks made earlier by the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

We do wish, however, to state that Japan strongly hopes and requests that the Democratic People's

Republic of Korea will take seriously the fact that the General Assembly has adopted the resolution and that it will fully cooperate with the United Nations system, including with the Special Rapporteur, Mr. Vitit Muntarbhorn.

Mr. Pham Hai Anh (Viet Nam): My delegation wishes to make the following statement in explanation of vote on resolution 60/173, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea".

My delegation voted against the resolution, since it shares the position of many delegations that do not endorse politicization, double standard and selectivity in the approach to human rights, or the use of country-specific resolutions to exert pressure, impose certain positions and interfere in the internal affairs of countries.

Viet Nam also shares the concern of a number of countries on the issue of abduction. Viet Nam's principled position is to reject all acts of abduction.

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 71.

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/509/Add.4)

The Acting President: May I take it that the Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Third Committee in document A/60/509/Add.4?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 71?

It was so decided.

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/509/Add.5)

The Acting President: May I take it that Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Third Committee in document A/60/509/Add.5?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 71?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 106

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/510)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 21 of its report in document A/60/510, and one draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 22 of the same report.

We will now take decisions on draft resolutions I through III and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/175).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 60/176).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 60/177).

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision, entitled "Reports considered by the General

Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice".

May I it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 22 of its report?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 106?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 107

International drug control

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/511)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 15 of its report in document A/60/511.

We will now take decisions on draft resolutions I and II.

Draft resolution I is entitled "International cooperation against the world drug problem". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 60/178).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Providing support to Afghanistan with a view to ensuring effective implementation of its Counter-Narcotic Implementation Plan". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 60/179).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 107?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 116 (*continued*)

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Third Committee (A/60/512)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it two draft decisions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 6 of its report in document A/60/512.

We will now take decisions on draft decisions I and II.

The Third Committee adopted draft decision I, entitled "Programme of work of the Third Committee for the sixty-first session of the General Assembly". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision I was adopted.

The Acting President: Draft decision II is entitled "Rotation of the post of Rapporteur of the Third Committee". May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt draft decision II?

Draft decision II was adopted.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 116.

I call on the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, who wishes to speak in exercise of the right of reply.

Mr. Sin Song Chol (Democratic People's Republic of Korea): With regard to the statement delivered by the representative of Japan, my delegation thinks that, instead of seeking support for something which has already been settled and wasting time on that, it would be more appropriate for the Japanese Government and the Japanese delegation here in this room to seek more comprehension and more understanding on the subject that is outstanding between the two countries.

In the statement made by my delegation, stress was put on the facts surrounding the abduction of Japanese-Korean citizens by some Japanese non-governmental organizations in the border area between China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. There were more than a few such facts mentioned in my delegation's statement. That is why we would like to urge the Japanese Government to acknowledge its past crimes very sincerely, to cease and never repeat the crimes that its nationals are committing on the

border between my country and China, and fully to comply with the Pyongyang Declaration adopted during Mr. Koizumi's visit to Pyongyang.

I think that would be the only way for both countries to have the rapprochement that is quite needed, called for and required by both peoples.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all of the reports of the Third Committee before it.

I give the floor to the representative of Guinea-Bissau on a point of order.

Mr. Cabral (Guinea-Bissau): I heard you say, Madam, that we have just concluded our consideration of all of the reports of the Third Committee. What about those with budgetary implications?

The Acting President: I thought that it had been made clear earlier that all those with budgetary implications will be considered after the Fifth Committee has finalized its work. The Assembly has concluded the reports of the Third Committee that were before it today.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.

United Nations A/60/PV.65

General Assembly
Sixtieth session

Official Records

65th plenary meeting
Friday, 16 December 2005, 8.30 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Eliasson ..... (Sweden)

In the absence of the President, Ms. Bahemuka (Kenya), took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 8.25 p.m.

Agenda item 123

Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/60/593/Add.1)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft decision entitled "Provision of conference services", recommended by the Fifth Committee, to be contained in a report that will be issued at a later date. For the time being, the text of the draft decision is contained in document A/C.5/60/L.10.

The text, as orally revised at the 32nd meeting of the Fifth Committee, reads as follows:

> "The General Assembly decides to provide full conference services to the informal consultations of the Fifth Committee beyond 6 p.m. and on weekends until the end of the main part of its sixtieth session and to report on any expenditure in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005."

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendation of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members once again that, under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that:

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I also remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the draft decision, which for the time being is contained in document A/C.5/60/L.10, as orally revised, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take a decision in the same manner as was done in the Fifth Committee, unless notified otherwise in advance. That means that, where a recorded vote was taken in the Committee, we will do the same.

We shall now take a decision on the draft decision contained, for the time being, in document A/C.5/60/L.10, as orally revised.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

05-65650 (E)

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The draft decision was adopted by 81 votes to 33.

The Acting President: I call on the representative of India to speak in explanation of vote.

Mr. Mazumdar (India): A vote has been taken on a decision, and the decision has been carried. Let me just say that there are no winners or losers in this exercise. It is unfortunate that the Fifth Committee had to resort to a vote, but then the enormousness of the task before the Fifth Committee in terms of its discussions relating to the budget and the reform proposals that are before us had made it an extremely important and urgent issue. Many of us felt that it was essential to have conference services during weekends and nights if we were to be faithful to the Organization and to complete the tasks that had been given to us.

I would just like to record my delegation's regret that all efforts by all parties to reach a consensus decision on that matter did not ultimately succeed. That is, of course, no reason to give up our practices and methods of trying to find consensus where we can, and we should continue to try to reach consensus on the many decisions that are before us at this session.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 123.

The meeting rose at 8.30 p.m.